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Deafneſs

Deafness

This is a distressing disease. It abridges a man of the pleasures of conversation, of ~~and~~ music, and of all ~~other~~ pleasant natural, and artificial sounds – It ~~likewise~~ precludes him from a great deal of usefulness, & lastly it brings on a languor upon ye spirits, and sometimes a diminution of intellect. Its remote causes are numerous. I shall briefly enumerate them. ~~with the Remedies for it~~ They act generally on the whole system, or locally upon the Organs of ~~immediately After its Causes.~~ hearing.

1 Inflam^n: – It is known by great pain & some fever. Its Remedies are V.S: – purges, Blisters and low diet.

2 Congestion without Inflam^n: or pain in the parts which adjoin the Organs of hearing. This cause is known by being accomp^d with head ach or vertigo –

3 Tumors in the meat: Auditorius.

4 An Obstruction of the meat: Aud: by a Swelling of the parotid glands.

5 A relaxation of the drum of the ear.

6 A rupture of the drum of ye ear by exceſsive sounds. Two cases of it in the war. Do. in two birds at Sea. This not uniform. Mr Cowper's letter to E. Home. two persons with eroded drums heard &c Phil: trans 1800

7 Palsy of the Auditory nerve. a tendency to it – the cause of Deafneſs ~~natural~~ in old age.

8 Certain ~~matters obstructing the meat:~~ extraneous matters obstructing the meat: Aud: such as ~~indurated Wax~~ – fruitſtones & insects. 9 Do obstructing the Eustachian tube.

10. ~~9~~ preternatural dryneſs of the meat: Aud: – This occurs in old age likewise.

I shall first mention the Causes which act upon the ear thro the medium of a part or ~~more or less upon~~ the whole System. They are. 1 Cold acting upon the head after it has been heated, thus inducing Inflam^{n}: ~~and~~ or Congestion, & an Obstruction of the Secretion of Wax in the meat: And:

2 a Catarrh obstructing the Eustachian tube.

3 Repelled eruptions, or old Ulcers healed,

4 a Stoppage of customary evacuations,

5 certain diseased states of the Stomach & bowels. 6 costiveness 7 Insolation. 8 a Salivation.

The Causes which act locally are

1 a humor distilling upon the organs of hearing – Deafness which attends ye crisis of fever is probably from this cause.

2 Wax in a larger than natural Quantity, or of two thick Consistence obstructing the meatus Auditorius. V

+ so seldom cured, the same remedies being indiscrimy prescribed for every form of it.

√ first those which are proper when the disease arises from causes which act more or less on the whole system

‡ The Blisters are generally applied behind the ~~b~~ ears. /

‡ Cheselden ~~relates~~ mentions an Acct of several Children being born ~~in~~ Deaf in one family in whom it was never cured. The succeeding Children had Blisters ~~appl~~ applied all ~~other~~ over their heads by Mr C: order ~~that~~ as soon as they were born, and deafness was thus prevented: a watch is heard best when applied to that part of the head where there is least flesh. Perhaps Blisters wd. be most useful to those parts.

the practice ~~of~~ this disease is empirical – & hence it is +
Our Remedies should be accommodated to ✓
with great exactness to all its 10 I shall mention 9
~~all these~~ remote causes. ~~act in the following~~
1st When from 2 & fever
~~ways~~. 1: ~~by inducing~~ Inflam: with acute pain,
whatever may be its causes,
or Congestion with vertigo, & head ach, ^ the
should be
remedies ~~for the former both are~~ V.S.
purging – Blisters, low diet. Afterwards
errhines. ~~If these fail – a salivation.~~

I cured Deafness from Congestion attended by vertigo, in a sailor in the hospital in 1799. by six V.S. after all other common depletg remedies had been used to no purpose. The vertigo is often the effect of incipient deafness. see Darwin. I cured it when attended with head ach in Mrs Huger by repeated V.S. & I afterwards opened an issue in her arm to prevent a relapse.

2 When it arises from Catarrh obstructd Eustachian tube, – the Remedies: V.S. purges Blisters‡ & Sternutatories, – snuff often a cure. ~~when~~ all fail – a salivation.

V 3 When from repelled eruptions,
or Old Sores healed,
by restoring, them — or by artificial
sores by Issues, or Blisters.

6 When from Costiveness — by gentle
purges, & Obviating a costive habit.

5 When from ~~any~~ diseases of ye stomach
or bowels — by the Remedies proper in them.

4 When from suppression of usual
evacuations, as piles, or menses. by
restoring them, or substituting VS to them.

7

V 7 When from Insolation, by the remedies proper in ~~that~~ the disease induced by it.

8 When by a Salivation — by ye remedies used to carry it off — or by reviving it. Deafneſs from all these ~~local~~ causes often confined to one ear.

In the use of ~~all~~ these general remedies, the state of the ear should not be neglected, for ~~often~~ they are often rendered abortive by local & organic affections induced upon the ear.

~~of the Deafneſs from all th~~

Of the Remedies for Deafneſs when from local causes — are according to ~~its~~ the nature of ~~those~~ causes.

1 When from humors falling on ye ear — purges — Blisters — and astringent Injections composed of Veg: Sub: as Galls — or Bark.

2 When from wax — by ~~injections~~ extraction, or injections of milk & water — Mrs Roſs: case.

3 When from tumors by diſcutient Ointment, or excision. When from Obst^{n}: in the Eustach^{n}: tube — Injections of a weak Solution of

& act by inducing inflamn: — the effect of this is seen in fevers where an undue determination takes place to the head. The hearing becomes exquisite to a morbid degree. Remember the fact of J: Bingham — Always recovered his hearing before a fitt of madness from morbid determination, & excitement in ye brain. a salivation cured Peace Wadman's wife of it.

+ I have heard of a case in which it was relieved by holding down the head, & sometimes pressing the Jugulars. The plethora of the brain thus induced gave tone to the drum of the ear. There is a case recorded in the Germ: Eph: of its being cured by placing the end of a pipe in the passage of the ear and drawing the air thro' it into the bowl of the pipe by the mouth.

Sir Joshua Reynolds who was hard of hearing, heard perfectly well when in company

13
Sal ammoniac thrown by a syringe to the bottom of the cavity. they open it by irritating it.

4 When from swelling of parotids — by discutient ointments. —

5 When from relaxation of the drum of the ear — by tonic injections — or by & vapor impregnated with aromatic herbs — accompanying voice with certain stimulating sounds, such as a drum & a carriage over stones. Stories of Dr Pope's lady. Dr Johnson — & Cataract of the Nile. +

6 Deafness from a rupture of ye drum of the ear — incurable by art: nature sometimes relieves it. [two cases of it ~~in the war~~. ~~a case in~~ two bird at sea. from firing of Cannon].

7 When from Palsy of the auditory nerve, the remedies should be — common salt — Vol: Spirit — oil of amber or sweet Canth: injected into the ear, — Electricity — Cold Bath firing of Cannon ~~+ They~~

8 When from fruit stones, or insects, extraction, or Spirit, or Sweet Oil.

9 When from dryness & absence of

with but one person – but in large companies he always employed an Acoustic, or w^t is called a hearing trumpet. – ~~In the latter case~~ one degree of tension alone was necessary in the former case in the Drum of his ear – in the latter it was necessary for the tone of the ear to change with every Voice, and this his ear could not do with sufficient promptness to enable him to understand what was said, without the aid of his trumpet. —

Secretion of wax, common salt.

Connected with Deafneſs is a disease called Tinnitus Aurium, or confused noises ~~in~~ like a roaring of water in the ear, or like explosions of ~~a~~ cannon. It arises from a convulsion of the bones in the ear. Its remedies are the same as for Deafneſs from general or local causes, according as it arises from one or the other.

Deafneſs ~~from general causes~~ from ~~as~~ several of its causes is often periodical, occurring in the spring or fall - or in wet & dry weather. That which arises from too much moisture in the ear is encreased by wet weather, while dry weather encreases that which arises from the absence of Secretion in the ear.

To obviate a return of this disease the following Remedies are proper.

1 wool or Cotton worn in the ears.
2 warmth applied constantly to the head, by warm night caps & a wig covering the ear.
3 the Cold=Bath. 4 Snuff. 5 Iſſues.

To leſsen deafneſs when ~~incip~~ moderate the following remedies have been found useful. 1 turning the side face to the person who ſpeaks. 2 ope=ning the mouth. 3 Elevating the outward ear & expanding the hand. 4 an acoustic. —— 5 ~~Speaking~~ receiving ſound thro' a ſtick held between the teeth of the hearer & ſpeaker. 6 ~~By~~ letting the Voice descend upon the head. 7 Speaking in different tones – ſmall ſounds are heard, when great one are impercep=tible. –